

Message

From: Wester, Barbara [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=CEA2B9B4C21E414495BC675184A5291B-BEWESTER]
Sent: 12/3/2015 3:43:33 PM
To: Kenney, Thomas [kenney.thomas@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: PolyMet NorthMet Proposed Section 404 Permit - Expert Opinion of Dr. Brian Branfireun on Mercury & Methylmercury
Attachments: Branfireun_Expert_Opinion_PolyMet_FEIS_(FinalDraftDec.2,2015)doc.pdf

From: McKim, Krista
Sent: Thursday, December 03, 2015 9:20 AM
To: Wester, Barbara <wester.barbara@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: PolyMet NorthMet Proposed Section 404 Permit - Expert Opinion of Dr. Brian Branfireun on Mercury & Methylmercury

From: Paula Maccabee [<mailto:pmaccabee@justchangelaw.com>]
Sent: Thursday, December 03, 2015 9:10 AM
To: Hyde, Tinka <hyde.tinka@epa.gov>; McKim, Krista <mckim.krista@epa.gov>; Walts, Alan <walts.alan@epa.gov>; Westlake, Kenneth <westlake.kenneth@epa.gov>; Sedlacek, Michael <Sedlacek.Michael@epa.gov>
Subject: PolyMet NorthMet Proposed Section 404 Permit - Expert Opinion of Dr. Brian Branfireun on Mercury & Methylmercury

Dear Ms. Hyde, Ms. McKim, Mr. Walts, Mr. Westlake, Mr. Sedlacek,

Under 33 U.S.C. §1344(c) and §1344(q), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has a duty as well as an opportunity to object to, to elevate and, to veto a proposed Clean Water Act Section 404 permit that violates the Clean Water Act and implementing regulations.

Attached with this email, please find a final draft opinion prepared by Professor Brian Branfireun based on his review of documents associated with the PolyMet NorthMet Mining Project Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS).

Dr. Branfireun is one of the world's leading experts on mercury methylation. He has updated the opinion he provided on the PolyMet NorthMet Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) and has reached additional important conclusions based on analysis of the FEIS, new data, and peer-reviewed literature available since the SDEIS.

WaterLegacy will provide a final copy of Dr. Branfireun's opinion, along with its referred materials and a curriculum vitae, when we submit our comments on the PolyMet NorthMet FEIS and Section 404 permit on or before December 14, 2015.

Please let me know if you have any questions about this report or if you would like to consult with Dr. Branfireun regarding any aspect of his opinion.

Best regards,

Paula

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